



Historical Syntax in Cross-Linguistic Perspective (Cambridge Studies in Linguistics)

By Alice C. Harris, Lyle Campbell

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In this important new work, Alice Harris and Lyle Campbell set out to establish a general framework for the investigation of syntactic change. Using a cross-linguistic approach, they reveal shared properties of changes across languages, determine what mechanisms lie behind them, and how they correlate to the overall explanation of syntactic change. They draw on data drawn from a wide variety of languages, in particular those from the Indo-European, Finno-Ugric, Kartvelian, and North East Caucasian families.

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Editorial Review

Review

"A book of this magnitude and comprehensiveness on a topic so neglected in recent linguistics has long been wanting. Harris and Campbell have made an admirable attempt to provide a balanced synthesis of over one hundred years of research on diachronic syntax...while simultaneously attempting to provide some unity to this dispersed field. Thus, they provide a unified methodology and a limited set of mechanisms of change.... ...this book is essentially the only one of its kind; this by itself is a virtue." Paul Manning, *Anthropological Linguistics*

Language Notes

Text: English

About the Author

Alice C. Harris received her Ph.D. in Linguistics from Harvard University in 1976 and is Professor of Linguistics (since 1991), Professor of Anthropology (since 1992), and Chair of the Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages at Vanderbilt University. She is author, co-author, or editor of four books and numerous articles in the field of general linguistics. At Vanderbilt University she teaches courses on linguistic analysis, language and cognition, sociolinguistics, anthropological linguistics, and historical linguistics.

Lyle Campbell is Professor of Linguistics in the Department of Linguistics at the University of Utah.

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